

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) As per information received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu, no Child Labourers are employed in Fireworks Factories in Sivakasi.

Accidents in Mines

2116. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of accidents which took place in mines in the country during last three years;
- (b) the total number of casualties which took place, year-wise;
- (c) the reasons for the accidents; and
- (d) the safety measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The total number of accidents which took place in mines in the country during last three years are as under:—

Year	No. of accidents	No. of casualties
1997	1155	242
1998	967	218
1999*	761	219

*Provisional.

These accidents mainly occurred in mines due to fall of roof, fall of sides, rope haulages, dumpers, truck tanker, other machinery, explosives, fall of persons and fall of object etc.

(d) Detailed safety measures to improve safety in mines have been laid down in the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. It is the responsibility of the mines managements to comply with the same. The owners and agents of each mine are responsible for making financial and other provisions and for taking other such steps as may be necessary for compliance with the safety laws. The Directorate General of Mines Safety has the responsibility to see that the safety statute is kept updated taking into

account the technical advancements as well as to make the same comprehensive, practical and legally sound and also to carry out periodic inspections of mines to oversee compliance of safety laws. Each and every accident involving a fatality is enquired into by an officer of the Directorate General of Mines Safety.

Besides the legislative measures, Government is also taking promotional initiatives which inter-alia, include:—

1. Organisation of conference on safety in Mines.
2. National Safety Awards.
3. Vocational Training.
4. Observance of Safety Weeks, campaigns etc.
5. Holding of First Aid and Rescue Competition.
6. Participation of workers in safety management.
7. Self Regulation by management.
8. Imparting of training to the inspecting staff in advanced countries to update their functional capabilities.

Unemployment Problem

†2117. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around seven and half crore people are unemployed in the country at present while only one fourth of them are registered in employment exchanges; and

(b) if so, whether Government's policy of economic liberalisation is proving to be a curse for these unemployed people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.